

A2 ¹¹² B2

9. (Once amended) A runflat tire having an axis of rotation, the tire comprising:
a pair of axially-spaced bead portions; each having a bead core;
a pair of axially-spaced sidewalls;
at least one body ply;
each of the sidewalls including a sidewall insert disposed inwardly of the body ply; the sidewall insert being adapted to support the sidewall in a runflat operating condition;
each of the sidewalls having a radial portion and a cantilever portion, the cantilever portion being cantilevered with respect to the bead core; and
the bead portion including an axially outer end disposed adjacent the radially inner end of the sidewall insert.

10. (Once amended) The tire of claim 9, wherein the cantilever portion is disposed at an angle in the range of +30 degrees to -30 degrees with respect to the axis of rotation of the tire, as measured along a reference line that is tangent to the body ply in the cantilever portion of the sidewall.

A3 ⁵¹⁴ E3

12. (Once amended) A runflat tire having an axis of rotation, the tire comprising:
a pair of axially-spaced bead portions; each having a bead core;
a pair of axially-spaced sidewalls;
a first body ply and a second body ply;
each of the sidewalls including a sidewall insert adapted to support the sidewall in a runflat operating condition;
each of the sidewalls having a radial portion and a cantilever portion, the cantilever portion being cantilevered with respect to the bead core;
the cantilever portion of the sidewall including a portion of the bead portion;
and
the bead portion including a radially outer end disposed adjacent the radially outer end of the sidewall insert.

A3

Sub
EL

13. (Once amended) The tire of claim 12, wherein the bead portion is disposed between the first and second body plies.

A4

Sub
SC3

17. (Once amended) A runflat tire having an axis of rotation, the tire comprising:
a pair of axially-spaced bead portions; each having a bead core;
a pair of axially-spaced sidewalls;
a first body ply and a second body ply;
each of the sidewalls including a sidewall insert adapted to support the sidewall in a runflat operating condition;
each of the sidewalls having a radial portion and a cantilever portion, the cantilever portion being cantilevered with respect to the bead core;
the cantilever portion of the sidewall including a portion of the bead portion;
the bead portion including a bead filler; and the bead filler being disposed between the first and second body plies in the cantilever portion of the sidewall.

Please cancel claim 23 without prejudice or disclaimer.

A5

Sub
EL

28. (Once amended) The tire of claim 24, wherein the stiffener ring is disposed inside the body ply.

29. (Once amended) The tire of claim 24, wherein the stiffener ring is disposed outside the body ply.

30. (Once amended) The tire of claim 24, wherein the body ply includes a main portion and a turned up portion; the stiffener ring being disposed between the main portion and the turned up portion of the body ply.

Please add the following new claims.

A6

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SC4

32. A runflat tire having an axis of rotation, the tire comprising:

ab

Sub
C4

a pair of axially spaced bead portions; each having a bead core;
a pair of axially-spaced sidewalls;
at least one body ply;
each of the sidewalls including a sidewall insert; the sidewall insert being adapted to support the sidewall in a runflat operating condition;
each of the sidewalls having a radial portion and a cantilever portion, the cantilever portion being cantilevered with respect to the bead core;
each bead portion including a bead filler having a portion disposed in the cantilever portion of the sidewall; and
the bead filler including an axially outer end that overlaps the position of at least a portion of the sidewall insert.

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B37

33. The tire of claim 32, wherein the sidewall insert is disposed inwardly of the body ply.

REMARKS

The Applicant acknowledges and affirms the telephone election made November 19, 2001, of claims 1, 7-17, and 21-31 drawn to the invention relating to the runflat tire wherein each cantilever portion of the sidewall includes a portion of the bead portion. The Applicant acknowledges the withdrawn status of claims 2-6 and 18-20. The Applicant has chosen not to cancel these claims at this time because the Applicant submits that independent claim 1 is generic and patentable. The Applicant thus respectfully requests that claims 2-6 and 18-20 be rejoined with the application based on the allowability of independent claim 1.

The Applicant acknowledges the rejection of claims 10, 11, and 13-16 based on the failure of the claims to recite which portion of the cantilever portion is used to measure the angle recited in these claims. The Applicant has adopted the Examiner's suggestion that the angle be measured along a line tangent to the body plies in the cantilever portion.